



# USSSA BASEBALL

## **RULE BOOK**

*Revised 2005*

Council Bluffs Parks, Recreation & Public Property  
209 Pearl Street  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503  
(712) 328-4650  
Fax: (712) 328-4650

Rainout Line (after 3:00 p.m.): (712) 328-4680  
Score Report: (712) 328-4659

Email: [info@cbparksandrec.org](mailto:info@cbparksandrec.org)  
[www.cbparksandrec.org](http://www.cbparksandrec.org)

**\*\*\*RULES OF CONDUCT – For Players, Parents, Spectators, Coaches, and Umpires:**

All participants in Parks and Recreation programs, including players, parents, spectators, coaches, and umpires, will treat each other with courtesy and respect at all times.

Unsportsmanlike behavior, including (but not limited to) vulgar language, derogatory comments, threatening words or actions, or physical violence of any kind will not be tolerated.

Disciplinary action can and will be taken, if warranted.

Umpires have the right to eject players, parents, spectators or coaches from the game or game area. If more severe sanctions are recommended, the Parks and Recreation's policies will be followed (copies of this policy are available upon request).

I. Pre-Season Meeting

- A. \*\*\*At least one representative from each team MUST attend the pre-season coaches' meeting. Failure to attend this meeting will result in the team's being ineligible to play. NO EXCEPTIONS.

II. Coaching Certification

- A. National Youth Sport Coach Association training classes will be optional.
1. It is highly recommended that coaches participate in this training.
    - a. Certification provides coaches with an additional \$1,000,000.00 liability coverage.
  2. NYSCA certification costs \$20.00 annually.

III. Eligibility

A. Age Limits

1. *10 and Under:* Any child who is currently 9 years old and who will not be 11 by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year OR is currently in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade
2. *12 and Under:* Any child who is currently 11 years old and who will not be 13 by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year OR is currently in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
3. *14 and Under:* Any child who is currently 13 years old and who will not be 15 by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year OR is currently in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade

B. Birth Certificates and Contracts

1. Each player must provide a copy of his/her birth certificate and a signed Players' Contract to the Parks and Recreation Department prior to the start of the season. These copies will not be returned.
2. A new contract and birth certificate copy are required each year.
3. If a player is on a high school roster, proof is required.

C. Maximum Players per Team

1. A maximum of fifteen (15) players per team is allowed. All players must be listed on the official roster.

D. Roster and Payment

1. A team's complete payment and roster with players' names, birth dates, addresses, ages, coaches names and phone numbers must be turned in WITH

all signed contracts and birth certificate copies one week prior to the start of the season. *If all information is not on file, the team will be considered ineligible and will forfeit each game until the information is on file.*

#### E. Transfers

1. A player must remain on his/her original team as long as the player and the team are eligible for the league, unless she meets the following criteria:
  - a. Player must obtain a transfer form from the team he/she wishes to leave.
  - b. The manager of the current team and the team the player wishes to go to must provide written acceptance of the transfer to the Parks and Recreation Department within seven (7) days.
  - c. The transfer must be approved by the Parks and Recreation Department.
  - d. Players cannot transfer or be added to a team after 20 days from the date of the first scheduled league game.
  - e. Once a player has transferred to a new team, he/she must remain with that team for the rest of the season.

#### IV. Ineligibility and Forfeiture

- A. If a player is deemed ineligible, games in which they have participated will be forfeited. Circumstances include:

1. Playing in the wrong age group
2. Playing under an assumed name
3. Playing without being on the official team roster
4. Playing without properly authorized transfer forms

- B. Failure to show up for a ball game will result in a forfeit.

- C. Failure to play all players the minimum amount of time as required by Rule VII will result in a forfeit.

#### V. Scoring and Make-ups

- A. *\*\*\*All Leagues:* If teams reschedule games (non-rainouts), they will be assessed a \$10 fee. This fee is payable BEFORE umpires are scheduled for the proposed game.

- B. *10 and Under:* There are no official scores kept for this league. Rainouts and cancellations will not be made up.

- C. *12 and Under, 14 and Under:*

1. Official scores will be kept for this league. Rainouts will be rescheduled.
2. Cancellations (made in agreement with the other team and prior to the day of the game) can be made up if both teams agree.
3. If both teams cannot agree to a make-up time in advance, the team that cancels will receive the forfeit.
4. If a game is cancelled on the day it is to be played, it is a forfeit.

#### VI. Field Measurements and Equipment

- A. *10 and Under:* 65' bases, 46' pitching, USSSA regulation baseball.

- B. *12 and Under:* 70' bases, 50' pitching, USSSA regulation baseball.

- C. *14 and Under*: 80' bases, 54' pitching, USSSA regulation baseball.
- D. Stationary bases will be provided at the Council Bluffs Recreation Complex only.
- E. A coin toss will determine the home team. Home teams must put out the bases, and will sit on the third base side of the field.

## VII. Length of Games

### A. *10 and Under*

1. Time limit, including ties: 1 hour, 50 minutes
2. Innings needed for a complete game: 6
3. Innings needed for a complete game in rainouts: 2½ or 3
4. Maximum batters per inning: 10

### B. *12 and Under*

1. Time limit, including ties: 1 hour, 50 minutes
2. Innings needed for a complete game: 7
3. Innings needed for a complete game in rainouts or with 10 run rule: 3½ or 4

### C. *14 and Under*

1. Time limit, including ties: 1 hour, 50 minutes
2. Innings needed for a complete game: 7
3. Innings needed for a complete game in rainouts or with 10 run rule: 3½ or 4

### D. *Time Limits for Tied Games (12 and Under, 14 and Under)*

1. No new inning after time limit in league play.
2. The final inning may be completed if it began before time limit.
3. If a game ends in a tie after the allotted time, a ½ point is awarded to each team.

### E. *Other Rules (12 and Under, 14 and Under)*

1. If a game is stopped due to inclement weather, it will begin at the same point it was suspended when it is made up.
2. There is a ten minute forfeiture for the first game only.

## VIII. Player Participation

### A. *10 and Under*

1. Each player must play AT LEAST two innings (twelve consecutive outs).
2. A maximum of ten players can bat in one half of the inning. The coach must notify the other that the tenth is their last batter. (This rule is not in effect for tournaments).
3. All players batting order is allowed.
4. Pinch running does not qualify under the participation rule.
5. Runners can lead off bases. A mark is placed on the third base foul line within five feet of the base.

B. *12 and Under and 14 and Under*

1. All participants must play AT LEAST six consecutive outs.
2. All players batting order is allowed.
3. Pinch running does not qualify under the participation rule.

IX. Pitching

A. *All Leagues*

1. Coaches must keep a log for each pitcher, including number of outs and innings per day.
2. The log must be presented to the opposing coach and umpire at the home plate meeting, five minutes before game time.
3. Pitching rules must be strictly adhered to, for the safety of the pitchers.

B. *10 and Under*

1. If a player pitches in FOUR or more innings, he/she must have THREE calendar days of rest.
2. Each pitcher may only pitch a MAXIMUM of six innings per calendar week.

Examples:

Pitch four innings on:

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Can pitch again on:

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

C. *12 and Under*

1. If a player pitches in FOUR or more innings, he/she must have TWO calendar days of rest.
2. Each pitcher may only pitch a MAXIMUM of seven innings per calendar week. Examples:

Pitch four innings on:

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Can pitch again on:

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

D. *14 and Under*

1. If a player pitches in FOUR or more innings, he/she must have ONE calendar day of rest.
2. Each pitcher may only pitch a MAXIMUM of eight innings per calendar week. Examples:

Pitch four innings on:

Sunday

Can pitch again on:

Tuesday

Monday	Wednesday
Tuesday	Thursday
Wednesday	Friday
Thursday	Saturday
Friday	Sunday
Saturday	Monday

X. Protests

- A. All protests must be written up and turned in within 24 hours (72 hours if the game is on a Friday or Saturday).
- B. Correct procedures, as outlined on the protest form in the back of this rule book, must be followed, or the protest will not be considered valid.
- C. There is a \$25.00 fee for each protest. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned.
- D. A committee comprised of a minimum of at least three non members (ideally, one coach, one umpire, and one representative from Parks and Recreation) will hear and decide on each protest.
- E. The committee's decision cannot be protested.

XI. Uniforms and Sponsorship

1. All players must have a number on his/her jersey.
2. No metal spikes allowed. Tennis and soccer shoes are allowed.
3. Full uniforms are required, including all equipment (catcher's gear, batting and base runner helmets, etc.).
4. Sponsorships are allowed BUT no "adult business" sponsorships (i.e. bars).

XII. Awards

A. *10 and Under*

1. All participants will receive a participation award from the Parks and Recreation Department at the end of the season.
2. Awards will be available before the final game.

B. *12 and Under, 14 and Under*

1. First and second place trophies will be awarded to top finishers in these leagues.
2. If there is more than one division, first and second place trophies will be given out for each division.
3. Trophies will be available after scores from the final games have been recorded in the Parks and Recreation office.

C. *All Leagues*

1. Trophies will be available for pick-up at Midwest Sporting Goods (305 E. Broadway, Council Bluffs).

***Parks and Recreation Youth Sports  
Roster***

League: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_ Asst. Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk Ph: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Wk. Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Name	Address	Phone	Birth Date	Age	Birth Cert. (✓)
1. _____					
2. _____					
3. _____					
4. _____					
5. _____					
6. _____					
7. _____					
8. _____					
9. _____					
10. _____					
11. _____					
12. _____					
13. _____					
14. _____					
15. _____					

\*\*\*Roster, payment, and all contracts and birth certificates must be completed and returned to Parks and Recreation at least one week prior to first scheduled game.

***Parks and Recreation Youth Sports  
Transfer Application***

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

From League: \_\_\_\_\_ From Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To Team: \_\_\_\_\_

New Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A player transfer is needed when a player is going from one team to another within the same league.

***Parks and Recreation Youth Sports  
Transfer Application***

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

From League: \_\_\_\_\_ From Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To Team: \_\_\_\_\_

New Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

A player transfer is needed when a player is going from one team to another within the same league.

***Parks and Recreation Youth Sports***



### ***Protest Form***

If a coach wishes to play a game under protest, he or she must go to each coach and umpire and designate at the point of the controversial call and *before the next pitch is made*. Each coach must notify the scorekeeper that the game is under protest. The scorer for each team must mark in the book that the game is under protest, and must mark the inning, outs, players on base (with names) score, player at bat and umpire's name. The coach must then submit a typed or written formal protest to the Parks and Recreation office within 24 hours after the game (72 hours if the game was played on Friday or Saturday). The scorebooks must be brought to the protest hearing.

**Fee per protest: \$25**

(returnable if protest is upheld by the committee).

**NO PROTEST WILL BE ACCEPTED  
THAT IS NOT DESIGNATED AT THE POINT OF CONTROVERSY.**

Signature of Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Department Use Only:**

Fee Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Protest Filed: \_\_\_\_\_

Protest Upheld? \_\_\_\_\_

## **TO ADD A PLAYER AFTER JUNE 15**

This form must be used for adding players after June 15.

Reason for addition: A) Injury \_\_\_\_ B) Employment Transfer \_\_\_\_ C) Military \_\_\_\_  
D) Short on Players \_\_\_\_

For reasons A through C, signature of Doctor, Employer or Military Representative

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's name to be dropped: \_\_\_\_\_

Player you wish to add: \_\_\_\_\_

For reason D, must obtain signature of all other coaches in your league.

List of players you want to add: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

League coaches' signatures of approval: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Final approval by Parks and Recreation Department: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Attach this form to the official roster

***Parks and Recreation  
Coach Affidavit***

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the coach of \_\_\_\_\_  
team, have read and studied this rule book. I agree to uphold the values of sportsmanship, courtesy  
and respect with my team, their parents, and our officials. I understand that there will be penalties  
for infractions.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please include this signed and dated form with your completed roster, contracts, birth certificates and  
payment. Thank you.*